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VS VENOM™

SILVER SABLE & THE WILD PACK™

WHO WILL SURVIVE THE VENGENCE OF VENOM?™

STEVEN 93

RELENTLESSLY TRAINED IN MULTIPLE FORMS OF COMBAT. INHERITOR OF HER FATHER'S PROFESSIONAL SOLDIER UNIT, THE WILDPACK. FOUNDER OF SILVER SABLE INTERNATIONAL, THE ULTIMATE MERCENARY FORCE. LEADER OF HER BELOVED HOMELAND, SYMKARIA.

STAN LEE PRESENTS. . .

SILVER SABLE & THE WILD PACK

RECOUPING LOSSES

PITIFUL.

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YOUR FAILURE TO CAPTURE VENOM AND THE HUMAN TORCH HAD SULLIED OUR REPUTATION AND CAUSED SEVERAL WHO LEASE OUR SERVICES TO LOOK ELSEWHERE.

I DO NOT HAVE TO REMIND ANY OF YOU THAT THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.

I HAD HOPED TO USE THE SURVEILLANCE VIDEOS TO PROMOTE OUR EFFECTIVENESS--

--INSTEAD THEY ARE A REMINDER OF INCOMPETENCE, WHICH YOU WILL LEARN FROM.

AT LEAST I AIN'T TA BLAME ON ANY OF THIS--

OH, YEAH--

YOU WERE TOO BUSY PLAYIN' TRAITOR WITH THEM NEXT WAVE WANNABES.

PASH

YOU WERE TO TAKE COMMAND OF THE WILD PACK ON THESE SOLO MISSIONS, BATTLE STAR.

INSTEAD OF LEADING, YOU ALLOWED EVERY-ONE TO GRANDSTAND AND LOST BOTH OF YOUR MARKS.

YOU OWE ME ONE COBRA BATON SANDBAGS!

BUT GOING AFTER A HERO LIKE THE HUMAN TORCH, SOMEONE I ADMIRED--

YOU ARE PAID TO FOLLOW ORDERS WITHOUT QUESTION.

THE TORCH IS NO LONGER OUT OF CONTROL--

--AND NO OUTSTANDING BOUNTY EXISTS.

SO YOU'RE OKAY WITH THAT LOSS--

THAT IS INCORRECT, CRIPPLER.

HIS CURRENT STATUS IS NOT AN EXCUSE FOR YOUR PAST MISTAKES.

GAAK!

PERHAPS THIS SQUAD IS NOT SUITED FOR BRINGING IN SUPER-POWERED INDIVIDUALS.

YOUR *EMOTIONS* SEEM TO HAVE GOTTEN THE BETTER OF YOU IN THE *TORCH'S* CASE, AND PLAIN *INCOMPETENCE* SEEMS TO HAVE ALLOWED *VENOM* TO ESCAPE.

I'M GIVING YOU A CHANCE AT REDEMP-TION.

THERE ARE *SEVERAL* BOUNTIES ON VENOM'S HEAD, INCLUDING THE ONE OFFERED BY THE *DAILY BUGLE*.

WE'RE GOING AFTER HIM IN SAN FRANCISCO. ANY FAILURE WILL RESULT IN YOUR BEING *REPLACED* AS MY "A" TEAM.

I EXPECT NO *MORAL* DILEMMAS *THIS* TIME.

LATER. MEDITATION AND KATA HELP EASE SILVER'S TENSED PSYCHE...

COME IN, SAM.

OUR WORK IN SOMALIA HAS DEFINITELY IMPROVED SILVER SABLE INTERNATIONAL'S PUBLIC PERCEPTION, DESPITE THAT CNN REPORTER YOU PUT TO THE GROUND--

--AND AS LONG AS YOU USE YOUR APPEARANCES ON LENO AND DONAHUE TO SHOW THAT YOU RUN A NECESSARY BUSINESS THAT DOES A GREAT AMOUNT OF GOOD--

--WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO REBUILD--

--LOST CLIENTELE.

SHE COULD AT LEAST PRETEND TO BE INTERESTED. OH, HEY, MORTY.

HEY?

MAYBE I CAN "ACCIDENTALLY" CATCH BATTLE STAR IN THE SHOWERS...

UH... I HAVE NEWS THAT IS NOT GOOD, SILVER.

JONATHAN LEE HAS FLED AND EMBEZZLED A SIZABLE SUM OF OUR CAPITAL GAINS. WE ARE TRYING--

WE WILL SEND PALADIN OUT TO RECOVER HIM.

I FEAR OUR FUTURE IN THIS BUSINESS MAY JUST DEPEND ON OUR CAPTURE OF VENOM.

KI-YAAH!

AWWGH!

ISN'T SHE *INCREDIBLE*? SHE'S ON THE RISE AS A TOP *MODEL*, AND SHE'S THE HIGHEST-PAID *MERCENARY* IN THE WORLD.

QUITE A COMBINATION, EH? SHE'S *SILVER SABLE*, AND SHE RUNS HER *OWN MULTI-BILLION* DOLLAR CORPORATION, SILVER SABLE INTERNATIONAL, AN ORGANIZATION WHOSE *METHODS* HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF *HARSH* CRITICISM AS OF LATE--

--*DESPITE* AN ADMIRABLE JOB HELPING TO FEED THE STARVING FOLKS OF SOMALIA. SILVER, I GOTTA TELL YOU, PEOPLE ARE *UPSET*. YOU ALLEGEDLY HIRE EX-CRIMINALS, MURDERERS, POLITICAL REFUGEES, AND THOSE WITH QUESTIONABLE MORALS AND PROCLIVITIES.

TO THIS YOU SAY WHAT?

MY EMPLOYEES ARE CAREFULLY SCREENED TO INSURE THEY ARE CAPABLE OF BECOMING PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS OF THE WORLD.

I BELIVE IN HIRING THOSE WHO CAN *BEST* ACCOMPLISH THE TASK DEMANDED.

I DO NOT EMPLOY THOSE CONVICTED OF *HEINOUS* CRIMES, SUCH AS *MURDER*..

I AM *PROUD* OF MY RECORD OF *NEVER* FACING CHARGES OF SEXISM, RACISM, OR ANY *OTHER* SUCH PREJUDICE.

WE'RE *ALL* FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. BUT THERE ARE THOSE LEVELING CLAIMS THAT YOUR *MERCENARIES* DO NOT TAKE *CIVIL RIGHTS* UNDER THE LAW SERIOUSLY, AND THE NUMBER OF *LAWSUITS* BROUGHT *AGAINST* YOUR AGENCY SEEMS TO *SUPPORT* THIS ACUSATION.

CLAP CLAP

BE CAREFUL. PLEASE BE CAREFUL...

THIS COUNTRY'S SYSTEM OF JUSTICE ALLOWS TOO MANY DANGEROUS FELONS TO ROAM THE STREETS *FREE* TO *DEVASTATE* SOCIETY.

IF THE PRICE OF INNOCENT CITIZENS' SAFETY REQUIRES THE LOSS OF A *CRIMINAL'S* CIVIL RIGHTS, SO BE IT.

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

WELL THIS *NEW YORK* AUDIENCE IS WITH YOU.

YOU WANTED TO SAY?

YOU *DISGUST* ME.

DON'T YOU FEEL ANY KIND OF *MORAL OBLIGATION* AS A ROLE MODEL TO OUR CHILDREN WHO READ ABOUT YOUR EXPLOITS AND ASPIRE TO BE *LIKE* YOU?

POSING *NUDE* IN *PETSHOP* IS NOT WHAT I WANT FOR MY DAUGHTER!

AND COULDN'T YOU *TRY* TO AVOID THE EXCESSIVE *VIO-LENCE*, AND BE A BIT MORE *SELECTIVE* WITH YOUR *PEOPLE*?

I HEAR YOU HAVE KKK MEMBERS, SADO-MASOCHISTS, AND EVEN LES--

WE ARE *MERCENARIES* PAID TO PROTECT SOCIETY AND RECLAIM STOLEN MERCHANDISE.

MANY OF THOSE IN MY *EMPLOY* HAVE HAD THEIR ENTIRE *LIVES* TURNED AROUND IN A *POSITIVE* WAY THANKS TO MY ORGANIZATION.

IF YOUR *CHILDREN* ARE LOOKING FOR ROLE MODELS THEN PER-HAPS YOU ARE NOT DOING *YOUR* JOB AS A *PARENT*.

THAT IS WHERE CHILDREN SHOULD BE LOOKING FOR *ROLE MODELS*...

OH, GOD... SOMEBODY SHOOT ME *NOW*.

...TOO MANY CHILDREN ARE BEING RAISED BY THE MEDIA--

AH, SILVER, EVER THE SOUL OF TACT.

I DO SO HATE TO SEE MY EX-WIFE MAKING SUCH A FOOL OF HERSELF TO GAIN CLIENTELE.

I WOULD ENJOY WATCHING YOU FURTHER, BUT THE FOREIGNER HAS AN ENGAGEMENT WITH YOUR CURRENT PARAMOUR, JACQUES GIRARD.

MR. GIRARD, THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION HAS NO REGARD FOR THE LONG TERM.

ONCE THEY HAVE YOUR LOBBY ON THEIR SIDE, THEY WILL MERELY SEE IT DISMANTLED, ALONG WITH ITS CONNECTED SPECIAL INTEREST CAUSES.

AND JUST WHAT DO YOU GAIN FROM MY WITHDRAWING OF FUNDS FROM THE SURRAY TRADE COMMISSION AND PUTTING THEM TOWARDS GONZALES?

I WOULD BE WILLING TO MATCH YOUR INVESTMENT. IT WOULD MEAN TWICE THE RETURN, AND PARTNERS WHO ARE NOT DEPENDENT ON THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S WHIM.

I'LL HAVE MY PEOPLE CHECK IT OUT. BARRING ANY UNFORESEEN PROBLEMS, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO BUSINESS.

SAN FRANCISCO. A CITY KNOWN FOR FAR MORE THAN RICE-A-RONI.

UH UH, YOU CAN'T RUN FROM US!

WHOA!

IT'S THAT VENOM THING, MAN--

YOU KNOW US, BUT YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH WE DESPISE YOUR KIND.

HELP!

YOU MAKE THE TOURISTS AFRAID OF THE PARKS.

YOU ARE GUILTY OF KIDNAPPING, WRECKLESS ENDANGERMENT, AND DESTRUCTION OF CITY PROPERTY.

AWW SHHHHH...

WE WERE SAVED BY VENOM?

WHURGH-- WE GOT RIGHTS--TAKE US TO THE COPS--

WE THINK YOU GAVE UP YOUR RIGHTS ONCE YOU TRIED TO HURT INNOCENTS!

AH B'LIEVE WE GOT THAT VENOM CRITTER SIGHTED, SUGAH!

EH?

HIT HIM WITH THE SONICS!

VR-EEE-E!

RAGH!

HHUHHH... AIR!

NO! WE ARE A HERO!

VREEEEEEM!

WHY DO YOU ATTACK US--

-- WHILE WE PROTECT THE CITY AND ALLOW THE CRIMINALS FREEDOM?

I GOT THE PERPS, SABLE.

SHRAZZT

AHHRRR! THIS IS WORSE 'N VENOM!

YOU ARE DELUDED, VENOM. YOU ARE A TWISTED MURDERER, NOT A HERO.

BESIDES, YA BRING IN A HEFTY BOUNTY.

ONE WE WON'T OBLIGE YOU TO COLLECT!

WE RESENT THOSE WHO ONLY PERFORM GOOD DEEDS FOR MONEY.

RATCHT

THRAM

UHHHH,,, OW. NOW I'M PEEVED!

I FIGURE MY AUGMENTED STRENGTHS GOTTA BE A MATCH AGAINST HIS.

GUESS WE'LL FIND OUT!

OOOFF!

YOU GOT AWAY ONCE, ALMOST COST US OUR JOBS.

THE GLOVES ARE OFF.

EVERYONE HIT HIM AT ONCE!

AARGH!

VREEEEEEEEEEEEEE

HEY! SEE MY THUMB?

GEE, YOU'RE DUMB!

NOT SO GOOD AGAINST SOMEONE YOUR OWN SIZE.

I PREFER A STAND-UP FIGHT, HEH, HEH!

EH?

BRAM

WE CAN'T BE KILLED BY SUCH AN INSIG-NIFICANT ATTACK--

--BUT MUST ENSURE OUR SURVIVAL!

WE WILL GRANT YOUR WISH!

AN UNDAMAGED SONIC--

CAN'T HOLD ME IN THEM TENDRILS--

--BUT I BET THEY CAN'T STOP ME FROM CRUSHIN' THAT MELON YOU GOT FOR A HEAD!

GRAHH!

WHAT DO YOU THINK, QUENTINO?

THESE SONICS CHECK OUT, AND I WAS ABLE TO BOOST 'EM 63%.

WE HAVE TO HIT HIM SIMULTANEOUSLY--

--AND STAY ON HIM UNTIL HE'S DOWN, OR WE'LL JUST MAKE HIM ANGRY.

AH THANK HE'S ALREADY ANGRY, SUGAH.

TRY NOT TO HIT SANDMAN.
ALL OF YOU COMBINED ARE NO MATCH FOR US!
YOU'RE GONNA EAT THEM WORDS, VENOM!

NYAAAA!

SANDMAN, GET CLEAR BEFORE--

YEARGH

I'M HOLDIN' HIM IN THE STREAM SO HE DON'T GET AWAY.

ARRGHHH! I CAN HOLD OUT A WHILE LONG--

VRASH

THE VARMINT'S DOWN!

BUT SANDMAN--

--HE DIDN'T GET OUT...

THERE IS NO *TIME* FOR GRIEVING, WE MUST GET VENOM INTO THE CONTAINMENT VESSEL NOW.

AH CAIN'T BELIEVE SANDMAN SACRIFICED HISSELF--

WOOOOO! NOW *THAT* WAS *NASTY*, BUT IT SHOULD HELP US *KEEP* OUR JOBS--

--HEY, WHY'S EVERYONE LOOK SO SAPPY?

WE THOUGHT YOU WERE *PULVER-IZED!*

AW, YA *DO* ACTUALLY CARE!

REMIND ME TO *NEVER* GO TA PIECES LIKE THAT AGAIN THOUGH... *PAINFUL.*

SANDMAN?

YEAH? LIKE HOW? I'LL *NEVER* GET THAT KIND OF *SENSATION.*

IT'S KINDA LIKE BEING PULLED THROUGH A--

--WHAT'S WITH THE *MIST--?*

IT'S *EVERYWHERE*, M'LADY!

IT SEEMS TO BE ALMOST *ALIVE--*

IT IS ALMOST ALIVE.

AND IT'S SPREADING VERY QUICKLY.

AND ONCE YOU ENTER, YOU MAY NEVER RETURN!

TO BE CONTINUED!